

## **FESTUM. International Youth Theatre Festival of Murcia**

**22-26 March 2022**

### **DESCRIPTION**

#### **Introduction**

The International Youth Theatre Festival of Murcia, FESTUM, is a meeting and exchange space for youth theatre especially that developed in schools of dramatic art, universities and other training centres.

It came about to respond to the concerns and international vocation of the two organising entities: the Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art and the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia. They each have their own profile: the first one is a leading Higher School in Dramatic Art and Artistic Training, and the latter hosts and fosters theatre activities in the framework of the University of Murcia, taking up with this new Youth Theatre Festival its long tradition of holding international university theatre encounters.

FESTUM is a festival including theatre performances, workshops, conferences and other side events with youth theatre at the core of it. The festival will connect with people in the city and the Region of Murcia, providing a dynamic international space for youth creation, a place for different cultures and artistic proposals to meet, and for theatre-based research.

This two-yearly festival will be held in 2022 for the first time, from March 22 to 25 (the week of the World Theatre Day), mainly at the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia and at the Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art. Its first edition was going to take place in March 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was

postponed. Now, with renewed strength and the same enthusiasm with which we created the Festival, we will raise the curtain, at last, in 2022. A new world and new challenges for society, youth theatre and interculturality are the starting points of this first edition.

The Festival will also be held in other locations around the city: in emblematic places, such as Teatro Circo or Teatro Romea; characteristic locations for students, such as the Social University Centre; or close to the citizens, such as the streets of the city centre. This is a truly international gathering aiming to enrich the festival outlook of the Region of Murcia, being the first festival to focus on youth theatre, and held in a city with a Higher School of Dramatic Art and a Theatre Centre, both enjoying longstanding tradition.

## Objectives

1. Fruitful exchange in theatrical pedagogy and artistic experiences.
2. Creating an international campus where young artists share and confront their skills.
3. Being open to the outside world and intercultural dimensions.

## Call for proposals

FESTUM will host theatre performances from higher schools of dramatic art, university theatre centres or universities in general, and other training centres specialised in stage arts. The mode of this edition will be face-to-face, however the Festival will also include another on-line mode.

In all cases, the members of the groups' cast shall be mainly students or graduates from 2018 onwards. This restriction does not apply to performance

directors, technical teams or artistic teams. Having students in the artistic or technical team shall confer an advantage<sup>1</sup>.

The deadline for submission of proposals is January 14th, 2022. The organisation shall convey the list of selected performances by January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## **Programme preview**

### **Tuesday 22 March**

11:00 Press conference. Location: University of Murcia (UMU Vice-Chancellor Hall or Museum).

11:00 Workshops/Master Class

13:30 Introduction to the Festival: Open-air theatre at the University Social Centre. Street Theatre.

17:00-20:00 Encounter: Schools of Dramatic Art and University Groups

### **Wednesday 23 March**

10:00 Workshop (Centro Párraga).

10:00 (Simultaneously), on-line mode of the Festival: International Youth Theatre Forum.

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<sup>1</sup> At the FESTUM Festival a distinction is drawn among the following concepts: cast, director, artistic team (lighting designers, set designers, choreographers, etc.) and technical team.

12:00 Master Class by an international specialist (ESAD or University venue depending on the format, to be confirmed).

20:00 h. Route prior to the opening performance: Street Theatre from the La Merced Campus through the city centre to the area surrounding Teatro Circo of Murcia.

21:00 h. Opening performance by Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art or the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia. Teatro Romea of Murcia.

At the end of the performances of the day, meeting with the audience and “live music cafe”.

### **Thursday 24 March**

10:00 Workshop (Centro Párraga).

10:00 (Simultaneously), on-line mode of the Festival: International Youth Theatre Forum.

18:00 Performance. Venue: ESAD (ESAD Theatre).

21:00 Performance. Venue: University (Hall at Teatro Concha Lavella).

At the end of the performances of the day, meeting with the audience and “live music cafe”.

### **Friday 25 March**

10:00 Conference. Then, round table on youth theatre (UMU venue).

12:30 Performance. Venue: ESAD (ESAD Theatre).

Participants encounter at the ESAD atrium (with the collaboration of the Catering and Tourism School of Murcia “La Flota”). Projection of the documentary about the FESTUM Festival.

18:00 Performance. Venue: Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art (ESAD Theatre).

21:00 Performance. Venue: University (Hall at Teatro Concha Lavella).

At the end of the performances of the day, meeting with the audience and “live music cafe”.

### **Saturday 26 March**

10:00 Group visit to the Roman Theatre in Cartagena.

19:00 Closing event: Reading of the World Theatre Day Message and closing performance by ESAD or the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia (Teatro Romea Murcia). FESTUM award-giving ceremony.

At the end of the day, meeting with the audience and “live music cafe”.

Note: due to the health situation resulting from COVID-19, the activities included in this programme preview may be modified or cancelled by the organisers.

### **FESTUM Awards to Youth Theatre**

A jury made up of specialists shall assess the most outstanding pieces in the field of youth theatre, granting a series of awards to the participating performances.

### **Participation of groups (on-site mode)**

The FESTUM Festival shall bear the accommodation and subsistence expenses of participating groups, up to a maximum of ten people. Up to a maximum

of three nights will be borne for national groups, and up to four for international groups.

If the group has more than ten members, the additional members or the institution in charge shall bear the relevant accommodation and subsistence expenses. Nevertheless, the Festival organisation shall make their reservations for accommodation and meals with the rest of the group.

Likewise, the Festival shall bear the technical assistance to the groups (lighting, sound, projection of video).

Participating groups shall bear their travel expenses.

Participating groups shall be responsible for having the visas and travelling documents required (e.g. documents related to COVID-19, customs or travel insurance). The group shall have their own legal personality or be backed by a legal entity in terms of having their respective travelling documents.

The potential backing company and the participating group may not have any professional theatre-based relationship among them.

The selected groups shall enclose a letter informing that their play is royalty free. In the event that the plays require a permit from the Spanish General Society of Authors and Publishers (SGAE) or payment of royalties, both procedures shall be previously borne by the group. Therefore, the organisation shall not be held accountable for these procedures concerning participating groups.

Important note: if any of the groups selected and included in the programme of in-person performances are finally unable to attend the Festival, due to a health situation derived from the COVID, the performance(s) will be replaced by the streaming projection of the performance(s). In the latter case, and always giving priority to live streaming, the alternative will be a video projection of the performance. In order to guarantee this last alternative, the selected groups must send their respective video with the complete performance at least two weeks

before the start of the Festival, with sufficient technical quality to make a public screening, as this video would be the substitute for their participation on our stages.

Due to the circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic, the organisation kindly requests groups to check health measures both in their country of origin and in Spain.

The organisation reserves the right to make modifications or take non regulated initiatives regarding this call, provided that they contribute to making it more successful owing to common interest reasons.

Meetings with the press, TV channels and radio stations will be promoted.

### **On-line mode**

The FESTUM Festival will have an on-line modality for groups that wish to participate in a virtual mode.

These groups must send a video (maximum duration: 20 minutes) where they present a sample of the work on youth theatre that they develop in their institution of origin, e.g. as video-clips.

These 20-minute videos will be screened at the international youth theatre forum scheduled during the Festival, and representatives of these groups will be invited to participate in the round table on youth theatre via videoconference.

Moreover, all FESTUM performances will be broadcasted via streaming.

### **Assessment criteria for the election of plays**

Since artistic plays are being selected, the committee shall weigh in a balanced way the drama-related and stage vision criteria, broken down into different aspects, but bearing in mind that each play has to be considered as a

whole. The following aspects shall be assessed:

- Performing quality of the cast
- Artistic quality:
  - Stage direction
  - Lighting and sound design
  - Costumes and stage set
- Script quality, in the case of an original play.
- Originality of the proposal.
  
- Suitability of the proposal for the purposes of the Festival.

Due to organisational reasons, the recommended duration of the shows is about 60 minutes; in any case performances shall not be longer than 90 minutes. The inclusion of monodramas, with a maximum duration of 20-40 minutes, is also envisaged.

The selection committee has full powers not to select those groups failing to comply with the submission requirements and not successfully justifying why.



## Registration form (on-site mode)

### Information about the institution:

Name:
Description of the institution:
Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Website:
Contact person:
E-mail and telephone for contact person:

### Information about the participating group:

#### 1. Participants covered by the Festival:

Full name	ID or Passport number	Please specify: -Actor/actress -Director -Technician -Other roles	Please specify: -Student -Tutor -Other	Gender (M/W)	Age
1					
2					

3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

2. Additional participants in the group:

Full name	ID or Passport number	Please specify: -Actor/actress -Director -Technician -Other roles	Please specify: -Student -Tutor -Other	Gender (M/W)	Age
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

Information about the performance:

Title:
Author:
Director:
Director's brief CV:
Brief background information about the group:
Cast:
Artistic and technical team:
Duration. Please state if there is a break:
Language:
Brief synopsis:
Introductory text for the Festival advertising booklet:
Two high-resolution pictures (please attach to the form)
Link to the performance trailer or teaser (Youtube, Vimeo):
Link to the complete performance recording (Youtube, Vimeo, WeTransfer, Dropbox):
Please state when and where the performance premiere took place:

Contact technician (name, e-mail, telephone):
Rider. [The groups shall be provided with the technical rider of the respective venues].

### Registration form (on-line mode)

#### Information about the institution:

Name:
Description of the institution:
Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Website:
Contact person:
E-mail and telephone for contact person:

#### Information about the participating group:

Name:
Group description:
Brief description of the group's line of work:
Web site:
Link to the video that will be screened at the FESTUM Festival with the presentation of the group's line of work (maximum duration: 20 minutes), (Youtube, Vimeo,

WeTransfer, Dropbox):
Contact person:
E-mail and telephone for contact person:

### Organising entities

Higher School of Dramatic Art of Murcia  
Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia

### Collaborating entities

Department of Education and Culture of the Region of Murcia  
Department of Tourism, Youth and Sports of the Region of Murcia  
Teatro Romea of Murcia  
Teatro Circo of Murcia  
Artistic Laboratory of El Carmen (LAC)  
Board of Culture of the City Council of Cartagena  
City Council of Murcia  
East District City Council of Murcia  
International Festival of Theatre, Music and Dance of San Javier  
Bankia and Cajamurcia Foundation  
Teaching and Resources Centre of the Region of Murcia (CPR)  
Murcia School of Catering and Tourism “La Flota”  
Coca Cola European Partners Iberia, S.L.U.  
Juan Gil Wineries  
Cafés Salzillo  
Estrella de Levante